

Docket No.: 2046 PUS  
Serial No. 10/047,169

Listing of claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

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1. (Currently amended) A collapsible container comprising:  
a base having a lower hinge portion including a first lower hinge portion and a second lower hinge portion; and  
a plurality of upstanding side walls attached to the base having an upper hinge portion extending downwardly therefrom, the upper hinge portion including a first elongate upper hinge portion and a second elongate upper hinge portion, wherein the first lower hinge portion of the base includes a first opening for receiving the first elongate upper hinge portion therein and also including a flange for securing the first upper hinge portion thereunder, and wherein the second lower hinge portion includes a second opening correspondingly sized for receiving the second elongate upper hinge member therein and for limiting lateral movement between the side walls and the base in a direction perpendicular to an axis about which the side wall pivots relative to the base, and wherein the flange is deflected in a plane generally perpendicular to the axis upon insertion of the first upper hinge portion into the first lower hinge portion, and wherein at least one of the upstanding sidewalls has a latch striker portion and an adjacent one of the upstanding sidewalls has a latch receiver portion for receiving the latch striker portion when the container is in its assembled orientation.
  2. (Original) The collapsible container of claim 1, wherein the second upper hinge member has a cylindrical cross-section.
  3. (Original) The collapsible container of claim 1, wherein the second upper hinge member is disposed adjacent the first upper hinge member.
  4. (Currently amended) A collapsible container comprising:  
a base having a plurality of lower hinge portions; and  
a plurality of upstanding side walls pivotably attached to the base and having lower areas with upper hinge portions attached therewith in a unitary construction,

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the upper hinge portions received by the lower hinge portions in a secure manner, wherein one of the upstanding sidewalls has a latch receiver portion formed integrally therewith, the latch receiver having ~~an~~ a receiving area defined by a plurality of beveled surfaces, and wherein an adjacent one of the upstanding walls has a latch striker portion having corresponding mating beveled ~~surface~~ surfaces for being ~~receiving~~ received securely within the latch receiver ~~when~~ to retain the container is in its assembled orientation.

5. (Currently amended) A collapsible container comprising:

a base having a lower hinge portion including a first lower hinge portion and a second lower hinge portion; and

at least one side wall pivotably attached to the base and having an upper hinge portion extending downwardly therefrom, the upper hinge portion including a first elongate upper hinge portion and a second elongate upper hinge portion, wherein the first lower hinge portion of the base includes a first recess for receiving the first elongate upper hinge portion therein and also including a stop portion for securing the first upper hinge portion thereunder, and wherein the second lower hinge portion includes a second opening for receiving the second elongate upper hinge member securely therein, wherein the second lower hinge portion includes a concave support surface for supporting the second elongate upper hinge portion thereon and for limiting lateral movement between the side wall and the base while enhancing the pivotability therebetween.

6. (New) The collapsible container of claim 5 wherein the stop portion of the first lower hinge portion extends downwardly.

7. (New) The collapsible container of claim 6 wherein the stop portion includes a lowermost edge for abutting the first upper hinge portion.

8. (New) The collapsible container of claim 7 wherein the side wall is pivotable about an axis relative to the base, and wherein the stop portion is deflected in a direction generally perpendicular to the axis upon insertion of the first upper hinge portion into the first lower hinge portion.

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9. (New) The collapsible container of claim 1 wherein the flange of the first lower hinge portion extends downwardly.

10. (New) The collapsible container of claim 9 wherein the flange includes a lowermost edge for abutting the first upper hinge portion.

11. (New) The collapsible container of claim 9 wherein the first upper hinge portion includes a flat surface, the flat surface abutting and deflecting inwardly the flange during insertion of the first upper hinge portion into the first lower hinge portion.

12. (New) The collapsible container of claim 11 wherein the first upper hinge portion has an elongated cross-section that permits insertion of the first upper hinge portion into the first lower hinge portion when the first upper hinge portion is in a first rotational position relative to the first lower hinge portion and prevents removal of the first upper hinge portion from the first lower hinge portion when the first upper hinge portion is in a second rotational position relative to the first lower hinge portion, said second rotational position different from the first rotational position.

13. (New) The collapsible container of claim 12 wherein the upper hinge portion includes at least one downwardly extending arm connected to the second elongate upper hinge portion, the at least one arm abutting a portion of the second lower hinge portion to prevent movement in a direction axially along the second elongate upper hinge portion.

14. (New) The collapsible container of claim 13 wherein the at least one arm includes a pair of arms, each abutting the second lower hinge portion to prevent movement in both directions along the axis.

15. (New) The collapsible container of claim 1 wherein the second lower hinge portion includes a concave support surface supporting the second elongate upper hinge portion thereon.

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16. (New) The collapsible container of claim 15 wherein the second opening of the second lower hinge portion is correspondingly sized for receiving the second elongate upper hinge member therein and for limiting lateral movement between the side walls and the base in a direction generally parallel to a plane generally defined by the base. 112'51

17. (New) The collapsible container of claim 4 wherein the latch striker portion snap-fits into the latch receiver portion when one of the side walls is moved to an upright position. 112'57

18. (New) The collapsible container of claim 4 wherein at least one of the beveled surfaces of the latch receiver portion and the latch striker portion is flexed upon insertion of the latch striker portion into the latch receiver portion.

19. (New) The collapsible container of claim 4, wherein the latch receiver portion includes a pair of arms extending at an angle inwardly and away from one another, and wherein at least one of the pair of arms includes an interference portion behind which the latch striker portion snaps when one of the side walls is moved to its assembled position. 112'51

20. (New) The collapsible container of claim 18 wherein the latch striker portion includes a pair of outer surfaces angling inwardly and away from one another, the pair of outer surfaces abutting the pair of arms when the container is in its assembled position. 112'54

21. (New) The collapsible container of claim 20 wherein the latch receiver portion further includes a generally flat surface between the pair of arms abutting a generally flat outer surface between the pair of outer surfaces of the latch striker portion when the container is in its assembled position.

22. (New) The collapsible container of claim 20 wherein the latch striker portion and latch receiver portion are a knock-down latch, such that they are unlatched by applying an external force to one of the adjacent walls, without manually actuating a release for the latch striker portion and latch receiver portion. 112'57

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23. (New) A collapsible container comprising:  
a base;  
at least one side wall; and  
a hinge connecting the at least one side wall to the base to pivot about an axis of the hinge, the hinge having a hinge pin portion and a hinge receiver portion, the hinge pin portion having a first hinge pin portion and a second hinge pin portion, the hinge receiver portion including a first hinge receiver portion and a second hinge receiver portion, wherein the first hinge receiver portion of the base includes a first opening for receiving the first hinge pin portion therein and also including a flange for securing the first hinge pin portion thereunder, and wherein the second hinge receiver portion includes a second opening correspondingly sized for receiving the second hinge pin portion therein and for limiting lateral movement between the at least one side wall and the base in a direction perpendicular to the axis of the hinge, and wherein the flange is deflected in a plane perpendicular to the axis of the hinge upon insertion of the first hinge pin portion into the first hinge receiver portion.

112' 3"  
112' 3"  
112' 3"

24. (New) The collapsible container of claim 23 wherein the second opening of the second hinge receiver portion is correspondingly sized for receiving the second hinge pin portion therein and for limiting lateral movement between the side walls and the base in a direction generally parallel to a plane generally defined by the base.

25. (New) The collapsible container of claim 24 wherein the flange of the first hinge receiver portion extends downwardly to a lowermost edge for abutting the first hinge pin portion and wherein the first hinge pin portion includes a flat surface, the flat surface abutting and deflecting inwardly the flange during insertion of the first hinge pin portion into the first hinge receiver portion.

26. (New) The collapsible container of claim 25 wherein the second hinge receiver portion includes a concave support surface supporting the second hinge pin portion thereon.

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A. 1

no support for striker

27. (New) A collapsible container comprising:

a base;

a first side wall and a second side wall, both pivotably attached to the base;

and

at least one latch selectively securing the first side wall to the second side wall, wherein the at least one latch has a latch receiver portion formed integrally with the first side wall, the latch receiver having an receiving area defined by a plurality of beveled surfaces, and wherein the second side wall has a latch striker portion having corresponding mating beveled surfaces for being receiving securely within the latch receiver, at least one of the plurality of beveled surfaces of the striker portion and the latch receiver portion flexing during the insertion of the latch striker portion into the latch receiver portion while one of the first and second side walls is moved to an upright orientation.

112'51

28. (New) The collapsible container of claim 27 wherein the latch is a knock-down latch that is unlatched by applying an external force to one of the first and second side walls to flex the one of the plurality of beveled surfaces to release the latch striker portion from the latch receiver portion without manually actuating a release for the latch.

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29. (New) The collapsible container of claim 27 wherein the at least one of the plurality of beveled surfaces is one of the plurality of beveled surfaces of the latch receiver portion that flexes outwardly during insertion of the latch striker portion into the latch receiver portion.

30. (New) The collapsible container of claim 27 wherein at least one of the plurality of beveled surfaces of the latch receiver portion includes an interference portion that snaps behind the latch striker portion upon insertion of the latch striker portion into the latch receiver portion.

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